FBI, CIA don't plan to release JFK files

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The FBI and the CIA have no plans to release reams of secret material on the assassination of President Kennedy, agency spokesmen said yesterday.

The comments followed concerns raised by an assassination expert about legislation proposed by Rep. Louis Stokes, Ohio Democrat, on the release of assassination documents held by the executive and legislative branches.

James Lesar, who heads the Washington-based Assassination Archives and Research Center, said in a forum in Arlington yesterday that Mr. Stokes' proposal may prompt resistance within the intelligence community.

FBI spokesman Michael Kortan said the bureau has already made public some 225,000 pages of Kennedy assassination material.

But Mr. Kortan said the FBI continues to withhold other assassination material based on standard government restrictions.

"We've pretty much made everything available we have over the years," Mr. Kortan said. The confidential material is protected by law, he said. "I don't know how [Congress] can supersede that."